

# BOBCAT NEWS

OCTOBER 2016



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Believe it or not, October is here already! September was very quick and very busy! I hope everyone has had a smooth start to the school year.

Please note that during the first month of school, we accomplished much including the following:

As a school, we reviewed **PBIS** expectations with all our students. For example, we taught expected behavior in many areas of our school including classrooms, cafeteria, hallways and buses.

The **PTA** held their Back to School Cook Out that was a huge hit! Thank you to the **PTA**.

We held our Open Houses in early September and it looked a little different than the past. We hope everyone enjoyed seeing the classrooms and meeting your child's teacher.

Your children have been working very hard in the classrooms. We are currently at the end of our Fall assessments. These assessments will drive our instruction in order to best meet the needs of **all** our students.

In addition, Manchester Public Schools has embraced the workshop model for literacy and numeracy. By teaching in a workshop model, teachers will use explicit instruction and best teaching practices to support student achievement. Please look for additional information on the workshop model in literacy and numeracy in the weeks to come.

As a friendly reminder, we hold emergency drills once a month. These emergency drills include fire drills and lockdown drills. Please know that these drills are meant for practice. I am also including in the newsletter our procedures for drop off and pick up. Please make sure you read this as it is very important.

For your planning purposes, listed below are dates of a few events taking place here at Buckley School. Be sure to save the date of October 20 for our exciting Literacy Night (more info to come)!

**Buckley  
Elementary  
School**

250 Vernon St.  
Manchester, CT  
860-647-3302

Absentee Line  
860-647-3344

[www.mpspride.org](http://www.mpspride.org)

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## FROM THE PRINCIPAL (continued)

October 4	School Picture Day
October 13	<b>PTA Meeting</b>
October 15	Frank Rizza Cross Country Challenge
October 19	1:17 dismissal (Half day for students)
October 20	Literacy Night
October 21	Book Bingo Night!



Finally, in an effort to continue to strengthen communication between Buckley School and home as well as to continue my office hours as I did this past summer, I will be offering office hours in October. These will take place both early in the morning as well as in the early evening. The purpose of these office hours is to hear from all parents/guardians. I am always looking at ways to improve and this is a great way to do this. It is also a way for you to come in and discuss anything you may want to discuss. Please look for information the first week of October.

Thank you again for all that you do as we continue to build a strong partnership between school and home. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at school. As a reminder, please follow me on twitter @ Buckley Bobcats.

Sincerely,

Matthew Daly



## FIRST-RATE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER Mr. Webster

I wanted to start by just letting everyone know that it was so wonderful seeing so many of you at open house! So far this year, our celebration of Hispanic Heritage month has been going well and in the beginning of October we will be expanding our celebration to include our first country of the month in morning announcements. Lunch Bunch groups will be starting up in October, if you haven't registered yet it's not too late, I take new families all the time. Also my positive youth groups and my work with the student ambassadors will also be starting up in early October. For families with students not in school yet, the Buckley FRC is partnering with the Highland Park FRC and the Manchester Senior Center to offer intergenerational playgroups. If you would like more information on these playgroups, please contact me. As always, if you need anything or have any questions, please feel free to call or email me. Hope everyone has a great fall season!



## **KICKIN' KINDERGARTEN** Ms. Adams, Mrs. Hoffman, Ms. Lavallee

and Mrs. Martin

We are off to a great start in our 2016-2017 school year. The kindergarteners have been very busy learning all about how to be a Buckley Bobcat. We spent time learning our rules and classroom routines. At Buckley School, we are safe, respectful, and responsible. We started our launch units in reading, writing, and math.

In reading, we are learning how to read independently and with a partner in the classroom. We are focusing on reading behaviors, such as sitting in a quiet "bubble" and making sure we do not pop our bubble by making too much noise. We are also exploring our classroom reading centers.

In writing, our focus has been on choosing what to write. We want to write about something we are passionate about. We created writing folders that we decorated with things we love. Our hope is that these folders will help inspire our young writers!

In math, we have had the opportunity to explore our manipulatives in the classroom. We are learning how to use these appropriately in math. We can count, sort, and compare using our manipulatives. Our focus is on numbers 0-5. We spend a lot of time on these numbers helping students gain a strong understanding. We compare using terms such as more and less. We also explore all of the ways that we can show these numbers (number writing, number words, and various arrangements of objects, using a five frame).

The kindergarten team would like to thank all of you for all of your help and support. It has been a smooth transition into the new school year. We are excited to work with your children and watch them learn and grow.



## **FABULOUS FIRST GRADE** Ms. Seaha , Ms. Rivers, Mrs. Bourcier,

and Miss Mulka

It's hard to believe that we have already finished our first month of first grade! It was so nice to see so many families at Open House! Thank you for coming in to see what your child is involved in while they are at school. The children have been working really hard and are getting used to the routines of our classrooms. We have spent the first month reviewing many Kindergarten skills and are ready to move on to our first grade curriculum. Some ways that you can help support your child's learning are to read with your child each night, practice sight words daily, and play math games that provide practice with number recognition as well as addition and subtraction in order to build their fact fluency. Lastly, we would like to thank the first graders and their families for being so welcoming to our student teacher, Miss Mulka who is working with Ms. Seaha's class. We look forward to working and learning with her as she prepares to join the teaching profession!



## **SUPER SECOND GRADE** Mrs. Strickland, Ms. Secha & Miss White

Second graders have been welcoming fall by practicing what makes a good reader both independently and with a partner in order to build stamina. We have also been learning the expectations of what it looks like to be a community of readers. In the month to come, we will be working hard learning strategies that will help us to solve tricky words.

As you know, second graders LOVE to tell stories. In writing, students will have the opportunity to make these personal experiences come to life! We have modeled and practiced positive writing habits as well.

In math, we have been reviewing addition and subtraction strategies that help make our math facts automatic. Second grade is currently piloting a new math fact fluency program to build these skills. We are moving toward mental math facts like: doubles plus one ( $5+6$ ), tens partners ( $3+7$ ), counting up ( $14-12$ ) and think addition (if  $7+3=10$ , then  $10-3=7$ ).

As part of our social thinking curriculum, second graders have been refining their ability to be mindful of others' feelings.



## **THRILLING THIRD GRADE** Mr. Sweetland, Ms. Brown & Ms. Rollins

September was spent reading, writing, and math assessments and teaching routines in Reading, Writing, and Math workshop. In October, third grade starts the Lucy Calkins Narrative Writing unit, Place Value, Rounding, Estimating, addition and subtraction of three digit numbers, and Unit One of Lucy Calkins Reading Workshop. We also are implementing a Fluency instruction program and a social emotional curriculum. Happy Fall!



## **PHENOMENAL FOURTH GRADE** Mrs. Godbout & Ms. Marocchini

During the lovely month of October fourth grade students will be studying "Characters: The Heart of the Story" and writing narratives. In math the children will be well into the first unit of study. The work of this unit includes comparing, ordering, rounding, adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing whole numbers. This is the longest unit of the year since it encompasses so much material. Finally, fourth graders will continue working on social thinking. This month includes lessons on how to "think with your eyes" in both social and academic situations.

## **FANTASTIC FIFTH GRADE** Mrs. Adinolfi, Ms. Brahm & Mrs. Jodoin

We loved meeting all of our new parents at Open House night and we thank you for taking the time to come see your child's classroom.

October is traditionally a very busy month, with our fifth graders getting used to more responsibilities and new opportunities for learning. By this point in the school year, we have established a routine and our students are getting in the habit of following a schedule and bringing homework back and forth to class. Please be sure to check your child's planner to see assignments that are due, both nightly and long-term. Additionally, we are all currently involved in whole class problem solving. Based on data collected, and students' previous performances, we will be choosing candidates for our Math Olympiads team. More information will follow soon.

Thank you for continuing to support our independent reading program by encouraging your child to READ-READ-READ any novels of his/her choice and grade level at home for the assigned 20 minutes per day! Thank you for keeping them accountable at home. The more you read, the more you know. The more you know, the more you grow!

## **SWINGIN' SCHOOL NURSE** Mrs. Shirley



Hello Bobcat Families,

Can you believe flu season is coming upon us? I would like to encourage you to make an appointment for your child(ren) to receive their flu shot for this year with their doctor. It is mandatory for ALL pre-schoolers. It is not mandatory for kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup> but it IS recommended...

It's pretty likely the sniffles, coughs and sore throats have been creeping around your house. It's pesky but not necessarily a reason for your child to stay home. However, as a reminder, if your child has a fever above 100 degrees, a frequent and/or persistent cough, a positive strep test, pink-eye, or any other bacterial infection per your doctor (until they have been on anti-biotics for at least 24 hours), diarrhea/vomiting, rash of unknown origin or injury needing medical attention-please keep him/her home. Also, please ensure your child is fever free and no vomit/diarrhea for 24 hours before sending them back to school. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE- call the attendance line at 860-647-3344 if your child won't be in. It's very helpful for us to be notified.

Enjoy the cooler temps and be well!

### **Can I ask for your help?**

The school nurse's office is in need of boys/girls pants and underwear. If you have any boys/girls pants that no longer fit your child ranging in sizes 4-14, please send them in with your child to drop off at the nurse's office. Socks are appreciated, too.

Thank You!

## COOL COACHES' CORNER Mrs. Miner & Mrs. O'Malley

WELCOME BACK! We would like to thank all of our families for continuing to read and practice math throughout the summer. This continued work throughout the summer benefits your children tremendously. It was so great seeing all of our Buckley Bobcats come to school so ready to learn! We are looking forward to a great year at Buckley School!

## COOKIN' CAFETERIA Mrs. Shultz & Mrs. Solito

Hi from the Cafeteria!

Well we made it through the first month and everyone seems happy. We had a good turnout for the PTA cookout & open house. Our younger students love to show mom & dad how they get in line for their lunch & punch in their ID#. Even our youngest students seem to know their # very well. Keep up the good work. Remember to keep checking the monthly menu for new food items.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, feel free to stop by or call us at 860-645-4818. We are available from 8:00 am – 10:30 am, or after we serve lunch, from 1:45 pm – 2:15 pm. You can also call the Office of Food and Nutrition at 860-647-3462. The office is open from 8 am – 4:00 pm every school day.

Please note: If you want to stop by the kitchen, you need to go to the school office to get a visitor's pass. All of us at Buckley School are working to keep everyone safe and healthy.

## JUMPIN' GYM Mr. Kolze & Ms. Falkowski

### Grades K-2

Welcome back Bobcats!!!!

We have been busy in the gym this year. We started with playground safety and fire drill procedures and then moved on to the fun stuff.

The K-2 students have been exploring locomotor movements and a variety of tag games. A familiar tune in the gym is the Wiggle Waggle. Ask your child what some of the movements are to the song and see if they can demonstrate them for you. Then ask them about "Rain Clouds and Sunshine" and "Noodle Bug Doodle Bug Tag." These are two of our favorite tag games and they are both so silly!

Next we will be doing several relay activities and discovering pathways (straight, curvy, zig zag, etc.). And don't forget the Cross Country Challenge. We will spend a little bit of class time getting ready for that too!

### Grades 3-5

Welcome back. It has been so nice to see the children and meet the new students at Buckley. In the beginning of the year, students are engaged in a cooperative activities unit. Students have had opportunities to develop their team building and sportsmanship skills. Students are encouraged to communicate with each other, develop plans, share ideas, and listen to one another. Cooperative activities foster success for all students.



## MARVELOUS MUSIC Mrs. Leonard



Greetings from music class!

Exciting news this year! We have *\*four\** music teachers here at Buckley School, each helping kids learn amazing new skills! In addition to myself-Mrs. Siobhan Leonard, one of our general music teachers, I hope that our band teacher-Mrs. Nicole Stickle- and our orchestra teacher-Ms. Sarah Jordan-are familiar faces. New to our school this year is Mrs. Catherine Scheideman, our kindergarten and first grade general music teacher. Welcome to the Buckley family!

So far this year, kindergarten has been shaking up some fun with egg shakers, while first grade has been exploring what a mute does for a trumpet. Second grade has been asking, "How many miles to Babylon?" while playing a game, and the third grade has been walking in circles with "Weeily Wheat." Fourth grade has already had a Breakout and used Bookwhackers to perform an ostinato with "I Have a Dog," while fifth grade has been focused on learning all about the Star Spangled Banner-ask them who was their favorite performer!

Keep singing everybody!



## AWESOME ART Mrs. Maloney

Your children continue to work hard in Art! In Kindergarten, we are practicing the routines that help us to make the most of our time and we are practicing using many of the tools that artists use such as scissors and glue. September has been a very busy month! Students in first grade are using drawing tools to create a picture of a rooster! We talked about how artists must put together shapes to help them to draw. Second graders are finishing up their Cool Cats. We looked at art by Laurel Burch and created our own cat portrait. Third graders completed a collage in the style of Henri Matisse using their scissors to cut out interesting shapes. We then went on to create a torn paper collage of a sunflower using one of our greatest tools... our hands! In Fourth grade, students are finishing up a self-portrait in the style of an Italian artist Modigliani. His expressive style and elongated necks helped inspire us when we had to stretch ourselves to fit on a longer paper. Fifth graders have started painting their sunflower composition which they had to plan from their beginning sketch. The results are sure to be very impressive! It was great to see so many families at Open House. We are off to a great start and it is sure to be an exciting year in the Art room!



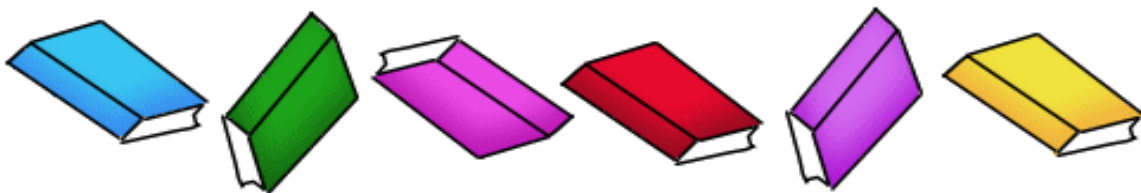
## MANCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS

Pokémon GO Walk – Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2pm at Mary Cheney Library. Join Manchester Public Library's Pokémon trainers in the Howroyd Room at 2pm so we can make a loop around Center Park to spin at PokéStops and hopefully catch some Pokémon, too! Bring your own device loaded with the Pokémon GO app and wear comfortable clothes. After our walk, we will return to Mary Cheney for a craft and snack. This program is for all ages – families, adults, teens! **Children under 14 must be accompanied by a parent or adult caregiver. Please call 860-645-0577 if there is inclement weather. No rain date.** Location: Mary Cheney Library, 586 Main St, Manchester, CT 06040

Preschool Dance Party – Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2-2:30pm at Mary Cheney. For children up to 6 years old, this program is a time for caregivers and little ones to rock out at the library. Dance, sing along and have fun to kids' music, oldies and "The Monster Mash!" Call 860-645-0577 for more information. Location: Mary Cheney Library, 586 Main St, Manchester, CT 06040

Danny Magic Family Program – Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 10:30am at Mary Cheney. A fun comedy magic show for kids and kids at heart. Call 860-645-0577 for more information. Location: Mary Cheney Library, 586 Main St, Manchester, CT 06040

Late Fall Storytime Session – The session begins on October 31<sup>st</sup> with many program options. Storytimes are offered for infants, one-year olds, two-year olds and three-to-five year olds. Please see a storytime brochure or ask a librarian for more details. **Registration begins October 24<sup>th</sup> for Manchester residents and October 26<sup>th</sup> for non-residents.** Locations: Mary Cheney Library, 586 Main St, Manchester, CT; Whiton Branch Library, 100 North Main St, Manchester, CT [library.townofmanchester.org](http://library.townofmanchester.org)





## MAGNIFICENT MEDIA CENTER Mrs. Lake & Mrs. Samborski

October is children's health month

On October 14th, Winnie the Pooh celebrates his 82nd birthday. A children's book character that endures and is loved for so long must be something special and Winnie-the-Pooh certainly is. Although, A.A. Milne first introduced Pooh in his poetry collection When We Were Very Young (1924), Winnie wasn't really born until he starred in his very first book, Winnie-the Pooh, which was published on October 14, 1926. His adventures with his friends Eeyore, Piglet and Tigger and his protector Christopher Robin continued in two more books by A.A. Milne, Now We Are Six (1927) and The House at Pooh Corner (1928). In the 1960's Pooh and his friends were animated by Walt Disney they have since been featured in dozens of movies, videos, easy-reader books, and even have their own attractions at Disneyland and Disney World. We will also be introducing the 2nd graders to the true story of the world's most famous bear with the Caldecott winner - Finding Winnie.

The official web site for **Winnie** the Pooh featuring all-new LEARNING ABC's and 123's...

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***SAVE THE DATE!***

***Join Us for Fall Literacy Night!***

***Thursday, October 20***

***6:00-7:30 p.m.***



***Come learn how to support reading at home!***





## October 2016 Elementary

Remember to fill out your  
Free & Reduced Price  
Meal Application  
Apply on line @ [www.ezmealapp.com](http://www.ezmealapp.com)  
If you need a paper copy please pick one up at  
your child's school!!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Maple Glazed Pancakes Sausage Links Potato Puffs Choice of Fruit	4 Chicken Patty on a Whole Wheat Roll Lettuce & Tomato Green Beans Choice of Fruit	5 Pasta & Meatballs Spinach Salad Choice of Fruit	6 Crispy Chicken Nuggets Cheesy Rice & Broccoli Steamed Carrots Choice of Fruit	7 Nacho Supreme Baked Tortilla Chips Taco Meat Mexican Black Beans, Lettuce, Tomato, Salsa & Sour Cream, Cheese Sauce Choice of Fruit
Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Yogurt/Bagel Plate, Hummus Plate, Chef Salad				
10 Columbus Day  No School	11 Cheese Quesadilla Salsa & Sour Cream Steamed Green Beans Choice of Fruit	12 Low Fat Mozzarella Sticks Marinara Sauce Whole Wheat Pasta Steamed Broccoli Choice of Fruit	13 Chicken Tenders Brown Rice Steamed Carrots Choice of Fruit	14 Pizza Round Cheese or Veggie Crispy Roasted Chickpeas Choice of Fruit
Turkey Sandwich, Yogurt/Bagel Plate, Hummus Plate, Chef Salad				
17 Toasted Cheese Sandwich Tomato Soup Sweet Potato Fries Choice of Fruit	18 Chicken Patty on Whole Wheat Roll Lettuce & Tomato Steamed Green Beans Choice of Fruit	19 Soft Shell Taco Lettuce & Tomato Salsa & Sour Cream Shredded Cheese Refried Beans Choice of Fruit	20 Popcorn Chicken Mashed Potato with Gravy Choice of Fruit	21 Soft Bread Sticks Meat Sauce Caesar Salad Choice of Fruit
Tuna Sandwich, Yogurt/Bagel Plate, Hummus Plate, Chef Salad				
24 Crispy Chicken Nuggets Seasoned Noodles Steamed Carrots Choice of Fruit	25 Beefburger, Cheeseburger or Veggie Burger, on a Whole Wheat Roll Lettuce & Tomato Corn Choice of Fruit	26 Pasta & Meatballs Roasted Zucchini Choice of Fruit	27 Breaded Chicken Tenders Roasted Mini Golden Potatoes Steamed Broccoli Choice of Fruit	28 Pizza Round Cheese or Veggie Crispy Roasted Chickpeas Choice of Fruit
Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Yogurt/Bagel Plate, Hummus Plate, Chef Salad				
31 French Toast Sticks Potato Puffs Sausage Links Choice of Fruit				Produce of the Month  Swiss Chard
Turkey Sandwich, Yogurt/Bagel Plate, Hummus Plate, Chef Salad				



*Menu subject to change*  
Please log onto [www.ezschoollpay.com](http://www.ezschoollpay.com)  
to monitor your child's account or call 860-647-3462

Student Lunch Price: \$2.15 – Reduced Lunch Price: \$.40  
Adult Lunch Price: \$3.50  
Student Breakfast: \$1.00 – Reduced Breakfast: \$.30  
Milk Only: \$.40  
Milk is available with all lunches  
Daily Milk Choices include: 1%, Skim, & Fat Free Flavored  
Fruit choices include a variety of fresh, canned, and 100% fruit juice.



**Manchester's Message**

95210

for a healthier you.

# Buckley PTA News October 2016

Like our page on Facebook (Buckley Elementary School PTA)  
OR

Contact us via email at [BuckleyElementaryPTA@gmail.com](mailto:BuckleyElementaryPTA@gmail.com)

- **PTA Meeting Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM** - This month will feature presentations by our 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Children are welcomed and we try to keep the meeting to 1 hr max. Please join us even if you can only stay for some of it!
- **Sweet Frog Dine-out** – Monday, Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> 5-8 PM, 1500 Pleasant Valley Road, in the Toy's R' Us Plaza
- **PTA Membership** - If you haven't already and would like to join, please send in your PTA Membership envelopes
- **Fall Fundraiser** –Orders are now due and will be submitted next week, please remember to get them to the school by no later than Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> (for questions, please contact Amy Cormier at [acarmela77@gmail.com](mailto:acarmela77@gmail.com))
- **Box Tops** – Please send in your Box Tops by Friday, Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>
- **Upcoming Fundraisers:** Mixed Bags Designs order packets will go home on Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> and Spirit Wear Online Store and order forms will be available soon!

## **Book Bingo Night**

**Friday Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> 6:30PM**

This is a free event that is fun for the entire family and no one goes home disappointed. Plus, our very own Principal Daly will be calling out the numbers.



## **Muse Paint**

**Parent's Night Out**

**Thursday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> 6:30 PM**

This is a new event for this year encouraging parents to get out for an evening of painting! Seating will be limited and will go fast, but if you can't make it this time, we will have another one soon.

<https://events.musepaintbar.com/index.php/welcome/edit/19370>



## **Trunk or Treat**

**Friday Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> 6:30PM**

Kids and parents come dressed in your costumes, decorate your car and come join the Halloween fun in our school parking lot! Families are encouraged to bring treats which can include items like stickers, candy, tattoos, or pencils.





## Manchester Public Schools

Buckley Elementary School  
250 Vernon Street  
Manchester, CT 06042  
[www.mpspride.org](http://www.mpspride.org)

*A Great Place to Grow and Explore*

September 29, 2016

### REMINDER

Dear Parents/Guardians;

I hope this letter finds you doing well and enjoying the extended summer weather.

I am writing this letter inform you that Buckley School is starting its 2<sup>nd</sup> year of a Parent Advisory Group, also referred to as **B-PACC** (Buckley-Parent and Community Committee). Purpose of B-PACC is the following:

*The purpose of the **B-PACC** is to be a formal voice of the parent community as well as the broader community for Buckley Elementary School. A key goal of the group is to promote productive dialogue among parents, staff, administration, and the community. The group serves as advocates for student needs and parents' voice. The group assists school staff and leadership in establishing priorities to inform school policy and initiatives. The group comprises of parents, teachers, and administration from Buckley.*

In addition, I am also writing to let you know that we are looking for an additional members of this committee. **If you are interested in being part of this important and active group please contact the school office no later than October 4<sup>th</sup>.** Please consider joining us! I have listed below an outline of the process and commitment for joining this group.

If you join, we ask that you have a 2 year commitment.

We aim to have no more than 15 parent/guardians on this committee.

This does not include me, Julie and at least 2 Buckley staff members. This will put the group at a total of 18-20.

We meet on the third Tuesday of the month from 6:30-8:00 pm in the media center.

We ask that you make every attempt at attending all meetings. While we do understand that things come up, please know that it is important that everyone is present.

*If you are interested, please contact the office. On October 5, a subcommittee (the subcommittee is comprised of parents/guardians only) will go through all interested names and contact all interested.*

Finally, **B-PACC** is looking for input from you! Please consider taking the time to complete this very short survey as we will use it to guide our work this school year. Please use the following link

<http://tinyurl.com/BPACCinput>

Or feel free to use this one;

<https://goo.gl/forms/tc2yBZntaF8L9f4n2>

Thank you for considering this and for taking the time to complete the short survey.

Sincerely,

*Matthew Daly*